

AUTOLOGOUS VASCULAR GRAFTS CREATED BY VESSEL DISTENSION

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 Devices and methods are provided for forming a vascular graft by axially
distending a blood vessel to induce growth. In one embodiment, a device for
distending a blood vessel of a human or animal is provided which comprises a
stretching mechanism attachable directly to a blood vessel at at least two
attachment positions thereon, and a means for operating the stretching
10 mechanism to cause the blood vessel portion between said at least two
attachment positions to be stretched axially. The distended portion can then be
excised and used as a graft.